



**State of New Jersey**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
**DIVISION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT**

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Janet Feldstein  
 Environmental Engineer  
 Site Compliance Branch, U.S.E.P.A. Region II  
 26 Federal Plaza  
 NY, NY 10278

15 JAN 1988

RE: SCP-Carlstadt

Dear Ms. Feldstein:

At the meeting held on November 5, 1987, the consultants for SCP-Carlstadt requested information regarding the Schwartz Leather Company and any other local ECRA cases which might impact site conditions. Files of the establishment in question and one additional ECRA site have been reviewed and the following are the findings:

The Schwartz Leather Company (ECRA CASE #s 85-064 and 850650) has gone through the ECRA process and the case is currently closed. Ground water monitoring at the site has detected only low levels of phthalates. There is little similarity between the contaminants found here and SCP Carlstadt.

Upon reviewing the Dames and Moore Well Inventory for SCP Carlstadt, the presence of monitoring wells at Cosan Chemical Company (ECRA case #84-419) was noted. This site was of concern since it is located relatively close to SCP, according to Well Inventory figure 1. Upon checking the ECRA files and speaking with case manager, Lisa Hurban, Cosan Chemical has been found to have ground water contamination similar to that observed at SCP Carlstadt. Contaminants such as benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, chloroform and chlorinated ethanes and ethenes have been found in shallow and deeper, till aquifers.

Further review of Cosan Chemical Company information has revealed an error in the Dames and Moore Well Inventory, which reduces the likelihood of cross contamination between the two sites. The location of Cosan Chemical has been misidentified in figure 1. Cosan Chemical is actually 1 mile to the northwest of SCP, on the other side of Berry's Creek. The distance between the sites and location on

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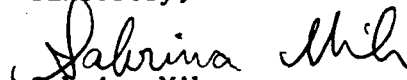
opposite sides of a major creek should preclude any possible cross contamination, at least in the shallow aquifer.

Should Dames and Moore require any additional ECRA information the responsible parties will have to review the files personally. A proper review is far too time consuming for the NJDEP to conduct in this instance. Cosan Chemical Company is still undergoing site investigation and the ECRA case manager, Lisa Hurban, has stated her willingness to cooperate with any further inquiries.

2. On November 19, 1987, historical aerial photographs from NJDEP's Office of Environmental Analyses were reviewed by Kevin Schick and Linda Welkom of NJDEP for the Carlstadt-East Rutherford area. Review of photographs from 1972 indicated that far more drum storage was present than has been previously assumed. The entire southeastern quarter of the site was covered with stacked drums and several other large drum storage areas were evident elsewhere. A subjective estimate of drum storage would be in the tens of thousands of drums. The largest drum storage area is in the vicinity of monitoring well #1, an area which had been presumed to be upgradient. Careful reevaluation of past site usage will assist in future sampling decisions and may help to explain the severe contamination of soils and ground water evident from initial sampling.

Please also note that I am now the case manager for SCP-Carlstadt, I may be reached at (609) 633-0701.

Sincerely,

  
Sabrina Mih, case manager  
Bureau of Case Management

c: Tom McKee, Section Chief, BCM  
Kevin Schick, BEERA  
Linda Welkom, Geologist, NJGS  
Bill Buchanan, On Scene Coordinator, BSO

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